

I wish to commend Post #2575 and all of its members for the great service they provide the veterans of New Mexico. Congratulations Post #2575 on 75 great years and keep up the good work.

THE PERSECUTION OF THE
UYGHUR PEOPLE AND THE FAM-
ILY OF REBIYA KADEER

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 17, 2007

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 497, which expresses the sense of the House of Representatives that Rebiya Kadeer's children should be immediately released from detention, and that the Chinese Government should refrain from further persecution of the Uyghur people. I am proud to be a cosponsor of this resolution and believe strongly that the Chinese government must be pressed on these points.

The China of today is not progressing, Madam Speaker, it is regressing. It is becoming more violent, more repressive, and more resistant to basic values of human rights and religious freedom. The Chinese government tortures and imprisons Catholic bishops, Protestant church leaders, Muslim worshipers, Falun Gong followers, and Buddhist monks and nuns just because of their faith and systematically destroys churches and confiscates Bibles. It persecutes the Uyghur people, cutting them off from the outside world as it pursues a policy of cultural liquidation.

Rebiya Kadeer is a brave soul who has stood up to this violence and repression. She has suffered so much at the hands of the Chinese Government, and yet does not recoil in fear. For her bravery, the Chinese Government has retaliated by capturing and imprisoning her children who remained behind in China. They have been held at unknown locations, interrogated, and very possibly tortured.

A couple of years ago, the FBI identified Chinese secret police following Rebiya Kadeer and spying on her at her Fairfax home. The Chinese Government will stop at nothing to silence those who oppose its brutal tactics against its own citizens.

I urge the House to adopt this resolution, and to demand that the Chinese Government cease its persecution of the Uyghur people and immediately release Rebiya Kadeer's children from detention.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF
LYDIA THOMAS

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 17, 2007

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Lydia Thomas on the occasion of her retirement as President and CEO of Noblis Inc. in Falls Church, VA.

Dr. Thomas graduated from Howard University in 1965 with a bachelor of science in zoology. She went on to pursue a master of science in microbiology from American University in 1971, and later, returned to Howard to earn a doctor of philosophy in cytology.

Dr. Thomas began her career with the MITRE Corporation in 1973. While at MITRE, she held a variety of technical and management positions in the areas of energy, environment, health, and communications systems. In 2002, she was appointed by President Bush to serve as a founding member of the President's Homeland Security Advisory Council. Dr. Thomas was elected to the Council on Foreign Relations that same year. In 2005, she chaired the Homeland Security Advisory Council's Task Force on Preventing the Entry of Weapons of Mass Effects on U.S. Soil.

On the State level, Dr. Thomas was appointed to the Virginia Research and Technology Advisory Commission by Governor George Allen, and then for a second term by Governor Mark Warner. Active in her local community, Dr. Thomas is a member of the Superintendent's Business/Industry Advisory Council for Fairfax County Public Schools, a trustee of the INOVA Health System, and a member of the Northern Virginia Health Force.

Dr. Thomas is the recipient of numerous awards throughout her career, including the 1986 TWIN Award by the Young Women's Christian Association; the 1990 "Ebony" Image Award by the Coalition of 100 Black Women; the Deans' Award at the 1991 Black Engineer of the Year Conference; and one of the 50 Most Important Blacks in Research Science in 2004.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I applaud Dr. Lydia Thomas on a distinguished career dedicated to ensuring the national security and environmental health of our Nation. I call upon my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dr. Thomas on her retirement and wishing her the best of luck in all future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO ALTA MIRA CLUB

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 17, 2007

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Alta Mira Club on its 100th anniversary. The Alta Mira Club is a philanthropic project established on December 9, 1907, to benefit women and children. The club is located in the City of San Leandro, CA, and has been creating a positive impact in that community over the past century.

The Alta Mira Club's 60 charter members became a part of the California Federation of Women's Clubs on January 13, 1908, with the adoption of a constitution, bylaws, and elected officers. The Club later joined the General Federation of Women's Clubs, headquartered in Washington, DC, on February 9, 1912.

The Alta Mira Club has a rich history. The members participated in the Suffragette movement and held classes for women on "how to vote", helped furnish and plant the grounds of the first San Leandro City library, and planted palm trees in the City, while also continuously engaging in other community, philanthropic, educational, scholarship, and social activities.

The Club purchased the Ygnacio Peralta Home in 1926, receiving California Historical landmark bronze plaque number 285 in 1949. In 1978, the Ygnacio Peralta Home was placed on the national register in Washington, DC. The membership of the Alta Mira Club is the sole support of the clubhouse, where

members continue the tradition of providing musical entertainment, poetry, and lectures as a part of its programs.

I congratulate the Alta Mira Club on their 100th anniversary of excellent service to the community, their many accomplishments, and their continued support of civic projects and programs.

HONORING DOTTIE JOHNSON

HON. PETER HOEKSTRA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 17, 2007

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dorothy "Dottie" Johnson, a passionate and dedicated leader both in Michigan and at the national level in the philanthropic and nonprofit sectors. I am proud to say that Dottie and her family reside in my district, yet spread their passion for philanthropy, volunteerism and nonprofit initiatives throughout the country. She is truly an inspiration.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Johnson's list of accomplishments is long and impressive. Each has significantly impacted individuals and communities on a myriad of levels.

For 25 years she served as the Council of Michigan Foundations, the Nation's largest associations of grant makers and has created other regional associations of grant makers in the United States and overseas.

A significant amount of Ms. Johnson's energy has been focused on our country's youth. She founded the Michigan Community Foundations Youth Project, involving more than 1,500 high school youth in philanthropy annually in Michigan and now an international movement in more than 38 States and 18 countries. She created Learning to Give, an internationally used Internet resource of more than 800 teacher-prepared and tested lesson plans on giving and the nonprofit sector for K-12 education.

She founded the Michigan AIDS Fund, the oldest statewide private response to HIV/AIDS in the Nation. She also initiated a number of other statewide efforts, including the Michigan Community Service Commission and Michigan Nonprofit Association.

The list of awards bestowed upon Ms. Johnson is yet another indication of the level of her dedication and success with which she pursued her work. She is the recipient of the Distinguished Grantmaker Award from the Council on Foundations—the highest award from the Nation's leading association on philanthropy. She is also the recipient of the Women of Achievement and Courage Award from the Michigan Women's Foundation.

She serves as a trustee on the W.K. Kellogg Foundation in Battle Creek and serves as a trustee of Grand Valley State University, which is now home to the Dorothy A. Johnson Center on Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership. She has served on numerous national boards, such as Independent Sector—the voice for the Nation's Nonprofit Sector.

Ms. Johnson retires this month as a trustee of the Corporation for National and Community Service, where she served since 1998, and has the distinction of having been nominated by both Presidents Bush and Clinton. As a former Chairman of the Oversight subcommittee with jurisdiction over the Corporation, I can say firsthand that she is a wise and